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Pullman Memorial
Universalist Church
Historical souvenir and
directory of the Pullman

Historical Souvenir

AND

DIRECTORY

OF THE

PULLMAN MEMORIAL

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Albion, New York

REV. CHARLES H. VAIL, Pastor

1910

Foreword

I am pleased to present to the members and friends of the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church this little Historical Souvenir and Directory. It contains valuable information concerning the origin and history of the Universalist Church in Albion, also a directory of the various organizations connected with the Parish.

I desire to express my gratitude to those who have taken advertising space in this booklet and thus aided financially in the undertaking. This evidence of friendship is greatly appreciated and I heartily recommend the patronage of our advertisers to the members and friends of the Parish.

Yours very sincerely,

CHARLES H. VAIL

—Albion, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1910.

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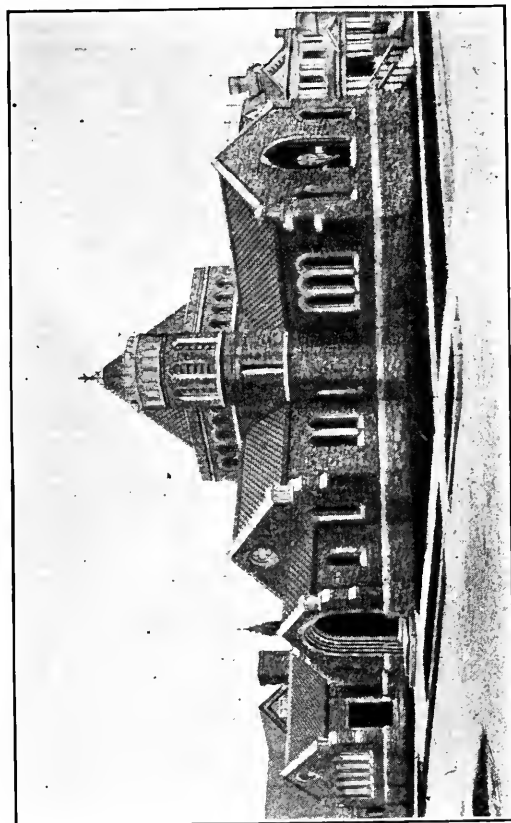
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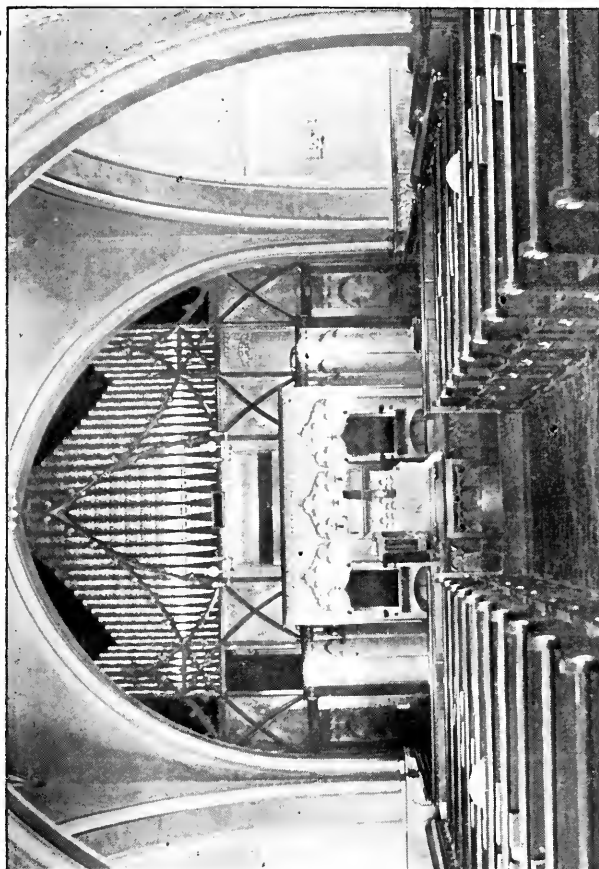
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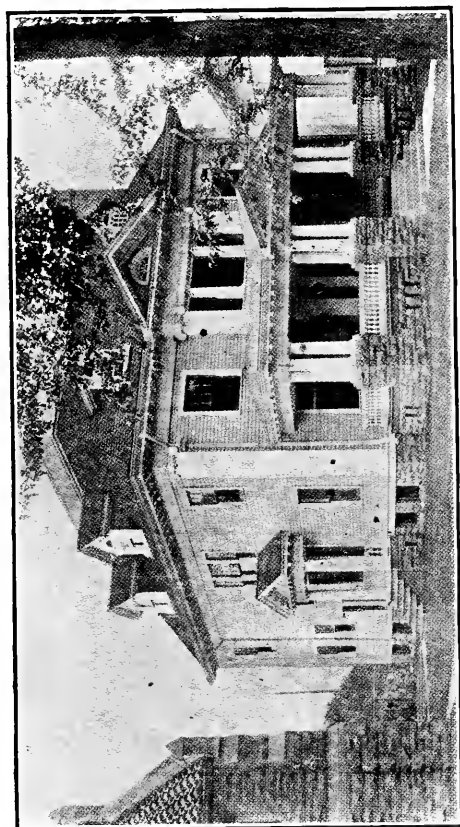
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REV. CHARLES FLUHRER

First Pastor January 31, 1895—January 6, 1961



REV. ARTHUR W. GROSE
Pastor July 1, 1901—August 1, 1905

Pullman Memorial Universalist Church

Albion, New York



DIRECTORY

PASTOR

Rev. Charles H. Vail, Residence 141 South Main St.
Bell Telephone, No. 3841

The pastor desires to be of service to all, whether identified with the Church or not, in every possible way. Please assist him by making yourself known by name, informing him of cases of sickness, and calling his attention to any other opportunity for usefulness.

CHURCH

Sunday Services—Preaching 10:30 a. m., 7:00 p. m.
(Evening Service from April to October half hour later.)

OFFICERS

Moderator, Mr. D. F. Garrett Clerk, Rev. Charles H. Vail
Stewards—Mr. Justus Wright, Mr. George P. Warner, Mr.
Fred W. Tanner, Mr. George M. Humphrey.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Regular business meetings of the Church on the Fridays preceeding the first Sundays in January, July, October, and on Good Friday.

COMMUNION

The Communion of the Lord's Supper is observed the first Sundays in January, July, October and Easter. To this service all lovers of the Master who may feel it to be either a duty or a privilege to do so are invited to participate.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

1. The Universal Fatherhood of God.
2. The Spiritual Authority and Leadership of His Son Jesus Christ.
3. The Trustworthiness of the Bible as containing a Revelation from God.
4. The Certainty of Just Retribution for Sin.
5. The Final Harmony of all Souls with God.

MEMBERSHIP

We are glad to welcome as members all who find themselves in general sympathy with the above principles, leaving each individual absolutely free to discover and express the truth in his own way. The pastor is always glad to explain the conditions of membership to any who desire to join the Church and give such council as lies in his power.

AN INVITATION

To all new residents of Albion and to all who may be without a Church Home a cordial invitation is given to join in the work and blessing of this society. The Pullman Memorial Universalist Church is an organization for the Worship of God and the Service of Man. Come with us and we will do thee good.

PARISH

OFFICERS

Trustees—Mr. A. W. Barnett (President), Mr. James G. Brown, Mr. J. D. Daniels, Mr. F. W. Tanner, Mr. D. F. Garrett, Mrs. Harriet H. Hart; Clerk, Mr. G. M. Humphrey; Treasurer, Mr. W. L. Mack.

MEETINGS

Annual meeting January 31. Other meetings at the call of the President or Clerk.

MEMBERSHIP

The Parish is composed of all persons who regularly contribute to the support of this Church. For envelopes for weekly contributions apply to the Treasurer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Service 11:45 a. m.

Officers—Superintendent, Mr. Frank Gage; Asst.-Supt., Mr. F. W. Tanner; Secretary, Mr. John Sutton; Asst.-Secy, Mina Belle Densmore; Treasurer, Miss Inez Warner; Librarian, Mr. Kenneth Ryder; Pianist, Miss Minnie English; Asst.-Pianist, Miss Inez Warner; Chorister, Mr. William J. Luttenton.

Y. P. C. U.

Sunday Service 6 p. m.

Officers—President, Mr. Homer W. Luttenton; Vice-Pres., Mr. John Sutton; Secretary, Miss Elsie Brown; Treasurer, Miss Minnie English; Pianist, Miss Inez Warner; Asst.-Pianist, Mrs. W. J. Luttenton.

MOTTO—"For Christ and His Church."

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

Officers—President, Mrs. Fred Rice; First Vice-President, Mrs. Elmer Thomas; Second Vice-President, Mrs. G. P. Warner; Secretary, Mrs. B. V. Botsford; Asst.-Secretary, Miss Helen Tanner; Treasurer, Mrs. James Brown.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Devotional—Mrs. Charles H. Vail, Miss Helen Tanner.

Visiting the Sick—Mrs. Charles Fluhrer, Mrs. Mary Lattin, Mrs. Emma Rice.

Flower—Mrs. Fred L. Rice, Mrs. Henry W. Fox.

Charitable—Mrs. E. M. Spaulding, Mrs. Cornelia Munn, Mrs. Ellen Scofield.

Reception—Mrs. Charles H. Vail, Mrs. Charles Fluhrer, Mrs. J. H. Baker, Mrs. Harry Lattia, Mrs. Mary Lattin, Mrs. Perry Church.

Domestic—Mrs. Frank Phipps, Mrs. Cornelia Munn, Miss Jane Lum, Mrs. W. D. Merrick, Miss Emily Culver.

Housemaids—Mrs. George P. Warner, Mrs. James G. Brown.

Fancy Work—Mrs. William S. Flintliam, Mrs. John D. Daniels, Mrs. Maud Roberts, Mrs. William Goff, Mrs. Wells English.

Market—Miss Mary Billings, Miss Clara Billings, Mrs. Thomas Ashby, Mrs. E. M. Spaulding, Mrs. Florence Reed.

Entertainment—Mrs. J. D. Daniels, Mrs. Wells English, Mrs. Charles H. Vail, Mrs. William D. Merrick, Mrs. Florence Reed, Mrs. John Pratt, Mrs. Frank Phipps, Mrs. Byron Botsford, Mrs. Guy L. Merrill, Mrs. Henry W. Fox, Mrs. Martin H. Ryder, Mrs. Fred L. Rice.

MEMBERSHIP

All ladies of the Parish are eligible for membership in this society. The dues are seventy-five cents a year.

MEETINGS

Regular meetings the first Tuesday of each month. Annual meeting the first Tuesday in May.

GET-TO-GETHER CLUB

An organization of young ladies who believe that "in union there is strength." The society devotes itself to various avenues of Church work. Meetings are held weekly, from October to June, at the homes of its members.

PULLMAN GIRLS' CLUB

OFFICERS

President, Miss Inez Warner; Vice-President, Miss Lillian Thomas; Secretary, Miss Lucy Porter; Treasurer, Miss Geneve Marshall.

MEETINGS

Regular meetings the second Tuesday in each month. Election of officers semi-annually, April and October. The meetings are literary and social in character. The club also has charge of certain lines of Church work.

CLOVER CIRCLE

OFFICERS

President, Mary Baldwin; Vice-President, Jessie Andrews; Secretary, Nita Brush; Treasurer, Jessie Densmore.

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

OFFICERS

President, Mr. F. W. Tanner; Vice-President, Mr. Homer Luttenton; Secretary, Mr. Gerald Fluhrer; Treasurer, Mr. J. D. Daniels.

MEETINGS

The second Tuesday of each month, November to April inclusive.

MUSIC

CHOIR

Director, Mrs. R. E. Brodie; Organist, Miss Hazel Adams.

PULLMAN ORCHESTRA

Director, Mr. Charles H. Vail; 1st Violins, Miss Ethel McLean, Miss Louise Britton, Mr. Wells Porter, Mr. John Sutton, Mr. Brunner Sutton; 2d Violin, Mr. Carl Parker; 1st Cornet, Mr. William J. Luttenton; 2nd Cornet, Mr. Homer Luttenton; 1st Clarinet, Mr. Marcus Swartz; Trombone, Mr. John Batt; Bass, Mr. Melvin Luttenton; Piano, Miss Hazel Adams.

SEXTON

Mr. Fred Trumble, Residence, 23 Pratt Street

Historical Sketch

of the

Pullman Memorial Universalist Church

Albion, New York

In the year 1890 during a visit of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Danolds to the summer home of the Pullmans, on one of the islands of the St. Lawrence, the conversation turned upon what was always a favorite topic with the Pullman family—the Universalist faith. During the conversation Mr. Danolds said that we ought to have a Universalist Church in Albion, and suggested to Mr. George M. Pullman that if he would give \$5,000 for that purpose, another \$5,000 could be raised in Albion. Mr. Pullman at once assented to the proposition, but thinking the matter over he conceived the idea of erecting a memorial edifice, the foundations of which it seemed to him his father had laid in the early times, to be dedicated forever to the furtherance of the religious faith which was so near to his heart; and he accordingly suggested to the friends before they departed that if a Universalist society should be formed in Albion to whose use such an edifice could be dedicated, and if plans could be formulated and adopted which would secure its permanent maintenance and usefulness, he would undertake to build and present it.

This generous offer of Mr. Pullman met with a very hearty and appreciative response from those present. On returning home Mr. Danolds talked the matter over with friends, and a conference was arranged to be held in the Court House in Albion July 15-16, 1891, in the interest of the proposed new Church.

The Conference convened on dates mentioned and Mr. Charles A. Danolds called the meeting to order and moved that W. A. Tanner be made Chairman. F. E. Kittridge was elected Secretary. The Secretary, on invitation of the Chair, stated the object of the Conference and welcomed the friends to the hearts and homes of the liberal people of Albion.

The following Clergymen were in attendance: Rev. T. Borden of Sherman, Rev. O. F. Alvord of Ridgeway, Rev. E. Hathway of Corfu, Rev. A. B. Raymond of Brockport, Rev. G. W. Powell of Lockport, Rev. Asa Saxe of Rochester, Rev. I. M. Atwood, President of Canton Theological School, Rev. A. E. Wright of Albion. The addresses and sermons delivered by this array of talent were most helpful and inspiring.

A temporary organization was effected at this Conference and the following officers elected: Trustees—C. A. Danolds, William Hallock, Sheldon Warner, W. A. Tanner, Mrs. S. S. Spencer, Mrs. F. E. Kittridge, Mrs. George J. Reed; Treasurer, William Hallock; Clerk, F. E. Kittridge.

A meeting was held at the Court House Aug. 18th, 1891, for the purpose of legally organizing and incorporating the society according to the laws of the State of New York. A committee consisting of S. S. Spencer, John A. Dibble and J. W. Wright was appointed to present a set of by-laws and also to report a list of officers. The committee reported that the name of the organization shall be known as the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church of Albion, N. Y., and submitted the following named persons as officers: Trustees, C. A. Danolds, John Lattin, Mrs. Joseph Hart, Sheldon Warner, Mrs. S. S. Spencer, W. A. Tanner, J. D. Billings, Adelbert Chapman, Mrs. F. E. Kittridge; Treasurer, George J. Reed; Clerk, F. E. Kittridge. The report of the committee was accepted and adopted and the above named officers duly elected.

On motion of Mr. Danolds, the Moderator, J. D. Billings, appointed a soliciting committee to raise the \$5,000 required by Mr. Pullman as a guarantee fund. The committee appointed was as follows: Mrs. S. S. Spencer, Mrs. Joseph Hart, Mrs. William Hallock, Mrs. G. J. Reed, William Hallock, J. W. Wright, W. A. Tanner, Sheldon Warner, Mrs. C. Holt, Irving Thompson.

The work of raising the fund was undertaken and carried on with a true Christian spirit. The effort required material sacrifice and self denial upon the part of many. The ladies of the society deserve special mention for their devoted and earnest work.

During this time services were regularly held at the Court House under the superintendency of the State Missionary, Rev. Daniel Wright, and the amounts pledged were reported every Sunday. All worked in harmony and enthusiasm and on Dec. 25th, 1892, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Clerk was instructed to write Mr. Pullman that the \$5,000 guarantee fund had all been pledged. This was indeed a glorious day—the faithful and consecrated work of the loyal friends of the cause had been crowned with success. The pledges represented between one and two hundred donors, the amounts varying from \$5 to \$600.

Mr. Pullman replied to the notification expressing his gratification that the conditions had been complied with, and stating that he would visit Albion very soon to discuss the question of location and general plans. Accordingly, on April 13th, 1893, Mr. Pullman, accompanied by his daughter and clerk, arrived in Albion by his special car and met the Trustees, Clerk and several members of the society and presented plans for the proposed Church.

The work of collecting the fund was now undertaken and on

May 28th, 1893, the last dollar had been collected and deposited in the First National Bank of Albion subject to Mr. Pullman's order.

Everything was now ready to begin the erection of the beautiful edifice—plans completed, site selected, etc. On May 19th, 1894, at 2:30 o'clock, the corner stone of the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church was laid by Renovation Lodge, F. and A. M., of Albion, of which George M. Pullman was a member, as was also his father, James L. Pullman, before him. The day was stormy, but a large delegation of Masons and a great assembly of people gathered about the site to witness the ceremonies. Grand Master Burnham and Grand Marshal Miller of New York, Acting Deputy Grand Master Taylor of Lockport, Senior Grand Warden Sutherland of Rochester, Acting Grand Junior Warden Ross of Albion, Grand Treasurer Govman of New York, Acting Grand Secretary Newall of Medina, Acting Grand Deacon Fitch of Albion and Acting Grand Chaplain Dunham of Albion took part in the ceremonies.

The closing exercises were held in the Court House and consisted of the singing of a Masonic ode by a male quartet, prayer by Rev. Charles H. Eaton, D. D., of New York City, and address by Rev. Royal H. Pullman, D. D., of Baltimore, Md. Dr. Pullman took for his theme "Character Building." His allusion to his own father and mother, in whose loving memory the Church was being erected, and to the consecrated life which was lived by them in the old home in Albion years ago, was most graceful and touching and deeply affected all present. In closing, he stated that the Memorial Church was not erected by his brother George as an act of ostentation, but simply and purely as a memorial of the father and mother who believed in the doctrines of Universalism and who lived their religion among the people of this community when it cost something to espouse so unpopular a cause.

At the annual meeting June 5th, 1894, a new set of by-laws drawn up by Dr. Royal H. Pullman, at the request of the society, was discussed and a committee appointed to revise them and recommend their adoption at a future meeting. The work was done and the new set of by-laws adopted at a regular meeting of the society held July 10th, 1894.

The building of the Church progressed rapidly during the Summer months, and the time had come for the calling of a pastor. At a meeting of the society, held at the conclusion of the morning service Oct. 14th, the meeting having been previously and duly called, a unanimous invitation was extended to Rev. Charles Fluhrer, D. D., of Grand Rapids, Mich., to become pastor of the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church, the pastorate to begin with the dedication of the new Church. Dr. Fluhrer's letter of acceptance was received by the Secretary of the society Nov. 19th.

The dedicatory service of the new Church was held Thursday morning, Jan. 31st, 1895. Rev. Royal H. Pullman, D. D., delivered the sermon. In the afternoon occurred the installation of Dr. Fluhrer as pastor. The installation sermon was preached by Rev. James M. Pullman, D. D., of Lynn, Mass. In the evening a reception was tendered Mr. George M. Pullman and Dr. Charles Fluhrer.

Dr. Fluhrer's pastorate extended over a period of nearly six

years, and was only terminated by failing health. After some months of sickness and the feeling that it might be many more months before he was restored to health, if even then, he felt it his duty to resign his pastorate, and consequently tendered his resignation, which was read from the pulpit Sunday morning Dec. 30th, 1900, and caused many deep regrets. At a meeting called for Jan. 6th, 1901, the resignation was sorrowfully accepted and a resolution passed tendering to Dr. Fluhrer the sincere thanks of the congregation for the wise, faithful and courteous manner in which he had ever discharged his duty, and expressing the trust and hope that he might soon be restored to health and renewed usefulness.

At a special meeting of the society held May 2d, 1901, a unanimous call was extended to Rev. Arthur W. Grose to become Pastor of the Church. The call was accepted and Rev. Mr. Grose began his work July 1st, 1901. Dr. Grose resigned August 1st, 1905, to accept the pastorate of the First Universalist Church, Rochester, N. Y.

The present pastor, Rev. Charles H. Vail, began his pastorate March 1st, 1906.

We regret that space does not permit mention of the various activities of the Church, especially the building of the handsome and commodious parsonage, which was completed and ready for occupancy May 1st, 1906.

We trust, however, that this brief sketch may be of interest to the friends of the cause, and especially to those who have recently come among us and to the younger element of our society who are not familiar with the early history of the Church.

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